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HAK LOS 8888

July 26, 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR HENRY A. KISSINGER

FROM: Al Haig

SUBJECT: Ladd's Role in Phnom Penh

You will recall that the President stated we should strengthen Ladd's staff in Phnom Penh as a result of the FIAB discussions and also "for our purposes" for him to serve as our Acting Chief of Mission. Lt. Col. Bonner, who speaks French fluently, has been sent to Phnom Penh as Ladd's assistant, scheduled to arrive the first week in August. This is only a small facet of the problem, however, and the key issue on the future military representation in Phnom Penh for MAP control will come up in the next WSAG meeting. My own view is that we should keep Ladd in charge and beef up military representation under him, rather than to build a large military staff outside of Fred's purview which would only serve to either eliminate the requirement for Ladd or build in unnecessary friction.

The second part of the President's directive is in effect under way now. We have always dealt with Fred as the action chief for assistance matters. I see no reason to raise this issue directly with State.

PFIAB review
completed.DOS review
completedON-FILE NSC RELEASE
INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

AMH: kd 7-26-70

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C03353566

Back from Pres

~~Notion Haig~~

* See President's note.

Haig has seen
do you want him to follow up

in fact yes	yes	—
but don't other	no	—
make sure	other	—

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

INFORMATION

SECRET

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Henry A. Kissinger *K*

SUBJECT: Status of Designation of U.S. Ambassador
to Cambodia

The problem of Mr. Kobe Swank's clearance as the U.S. Ambassador to Cambodia came up in this morning's meeting with your Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board. Here is where the issue stands:

- The agreement has been processed with the Cambodians and now rests in the hands of the Foreign Relations Committee.
- The request for clearance by the Foreign Relations Committee, preliminary to Senate approval, was forwarded this week; hearings normally follow within a week. However, the Foreign Relations Committee is scheduled to hear testimony from Ambassador Godley on Tuesday and State reports that the Committee will probably not get to the hearings on Mr. Swank until July 27th.
- Assuming the Foreign Relations Committee hearings move on the above schedule, we could normally anticipate full Senate clearance within a week following that.
- Thus, if all went well, we could anticipate Ambassador Swank's arrival in Cambodia by mid-August.

The Foreign Relations Committee, through Carl Marcy, has already expressed some concern about the advisability of sending an Ambassador to Cambodia. Secondly, we can anticipate some probing about the activities of Mr. Swank when he was the DCM in Laos. In general, however, State assures us that Swank is highly regarded by the Foreign Relations Committee and should as an individual pose no special problems.

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